

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

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DRAFTED BY EB/AN:JBMAGNOR:CAB:JKISER:DAP

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EUR/NE - N. ACHILLES

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P 251545Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: NOTICE OF DISSATISFACTION - BELGIUM

-- HOME COMING FARE

1. ON NOVEMBER 19, 1975, SABENA FILED FARES FOR EFFECTIVE-
NESS DECEMBER 19, 1975, TO ENCOURAGE TRAVEL TO BELGIUM FROM
THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES, OF PERSONS OF
BELGIAN HERITAGE RESIDING ABROAD ON THE OCCASION OF THE
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF KING BAUDOUIN'S CORONATION. THE FARES,
PROPOSED AT A 50 PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM THE ROUND TRIP
NORMAL ECONOMY FARE, CARRY A MINIMUM/MAXIMUM STAY REQUIRE-
MENT OF 14/45 DAYS, AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO PERSONS BORN
IN BELGIUM BUT NOW RESIDING PERMANENTLY ABROAD, CHILDREN
OR GRANDCHILDREN OF NATIVE-BORN BELGIANS, AND SPOUSES OF
ANY OF THESE CATEGORIES.

2. THE CAB OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED FARES ON THE GROUNDS
THAT THEY MAY CONSTITUTE UNJUST DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED
UNDER THE TERMS OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ACT OF 1958. THE
FARES WOULD BE AVAILABLE ONLY TO A VERY LIMITED SEGMENT OF
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THE FLYING PUBLIC, DEFINED ON THE BASIS OF NATIONAL

ORIGIN, AND THE CAB HAS GENERALLY FOUND SUCH FARES TO BE
UNJUSTLY DISCRIMINATORY AND PRECLUDED THEIR USE TO OR FROM

THE UNITED STATES. IN ADDITION, TO THE EXTENT THE
GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM WISHES TO ENCOURAGE OBSERVANCE OF
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF KING BAUDOUIN'S CORONATION, IT
IS THE CAB'S POSITION THAT THE DISCOUNT FARES ADOPTED BY
IATA, AND APPROVED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS, PROVIDE AN
ADEQUATE FACILITY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SUCH TRAVEL.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: DRAWING ON PARAS 1 AND 2 ABOVE,
EMBASSY SHOULD PREPARE AND DELIVER NOTE NOTIFYING GOB
OF DISSATISFACTION WITH PROPOSED SABENA HOME COMING FARE.
(SEE ANNEX SECTION V (F), US-BELGIUM AIR TRANSPORT
AGREEMENT.) INGERSOLL

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